

## **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the present application is requested. Claims 2, 8-14, 20-24 and 26-27 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-7, 15-19 and 25 are pending.

## **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18-21, and 23-25. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the features of claim 2. Therefore, claim 1 and all claims dependent there from are believed to be in condition for allowance.

## **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101**

The Examiner rejects claims 8-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's rejection of claim 8, Applicants have canceled this claim without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have also canceled claims 9-14 and 20-24, which depend from claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 15-19 and 25 refer back to the method of claim 1, and thus are statutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101 based on claim 1. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

## **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH**

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 8, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because the claims allegedly omit essential steps. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants fail to understand the Examiner's reasoning with respect to this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for automatic retrieval of engineering data and restoration of representatives of the automation objects. In the method of claim 1, the automatic retrieval is achieved by the steps of:

supplying, by each of the automation objects, an identifying designation of a type of respective representative to the engineering system;

creating, via the engineering system, said representatives for the designated types and, for each of the representatives, entering a reference to the corresponding automation object; [and]

reading out, each representative read out engineering information from the object into the representative using the reference.

The restoration of representatives of the automation objects in claim 1 is achieved by the step of:

restoring each of the representatives by entering said information into itself.

The recitation of, "the automation system including a multiplicity of individual runtime automation objects in the runtime system, the runtime automation objects have no direct reference to any associated engineering objects in the engineering system," in claim 1, describe the automation system.

Given the above discussion, Applicants believe claims 1, 26 and 27 do not omit essential steps and are fully in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

## **DRAWING OBJECTIONS**

The Examiner objects to the drawings because "the automation objects, type of respective representative to the engineering system, a references to the corresponding automation," is not shown in the figures. Applicants disagree.

As the Examiner will appreciate, the drawings already show the (runtime) automation objects (RTO, RAO1,...RAO4), the type (ESO Type ID) of the respective representative (ESO, AO1,...AO4) to the engineering system and the reference (RTO Ref) to the corresponding automation object (RTO, RAO1,...RAO4). Accordingly, the drawings are fully in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), and the objection should be withdrawn.

## **PRIOR ART REJECTIONS**

### **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(A)**

Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 17 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0037161 ("Hess"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have canceled claims 8-14 and 20-24 without prejudice or disclaimer rendering the rejection of claims 8, 11, 13-14 and 22 moot. Further, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the features of dependent claim 2 indicated as defining allowable subject matter. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 1, 4, 6-7, and 17 is requested.

## **CONCLUSION**

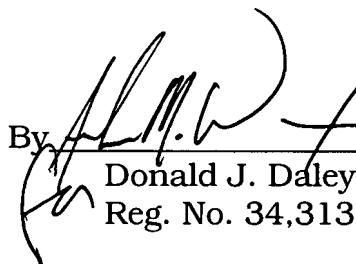
Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1, 3-7, 15-19 and 25 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007, at the number of the undersigned listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, PLC

By   
Donald J. Daley  
Reg. No. 34,313

P.O. Box 8910  
Reston, VA 20195  
(703) 668-8000

DJD/AMW:krm